

SENATOR HALL: I move that LB 663A be advanced from Select File to E & R for Engrossing.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Any discussion? Those in favor of the advancement of the A bill to E & R Engrossing please say aye. Opposed no. Carried, the bill is advanced. LB 375.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have a priority motion on 375, and that motion is to bracket the bill until January 15, 1988. It is offered by Senator Hefner.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President, members of the body, I move to bracket LB 375 until January 15, 1988. I don't think we're ready for this bill yet. I don't think we're ready for interstate banking, and this will buy us a little more time. This is a major change in the banking structure in our state, so I think we need more time to study it and to analyze it more carefully. Also, I don't believe there is enough votes to advance this bill, because if you recall on General File there was just the bare minimum to pass it. So I think we would be saving time if we would delay debating it and just go ahead and bracket it. And as I understand it, and I'm sure that somebody else will talk about that, the latest word is that now all the interested parties are agreeable to that. So, with that in mind, I would move for the bracketing of this bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Discussion? Senator Abboud, any discussion? Senator Schmit, on the bracketing.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Mr. President and members, I would just like to say that I noticed the other day the Director of Banking stated that the banking industry had stabilized in Nebraska. I didn't read the rest of the article, but I assume she meant it had stabilized sort of in a state of the doldrums. It certainly hasn't shown any remarkable rebirth in my area. There certainly doesn't seem to be much competition in my area to make loans to farmers, or businessmen, or anyone else for that matter. There is a great amount of surplus money in the banks, high rates of interest. We have a reluctance to do much business because of the lack of a lot of economic opportunity in the rural areas. I think that Senator Haberman or Senator Hefner would agree that the prospects for the agricultural sector continue to be very dismal. This body has consistently refused to address issues of